

B inside Boulder

The City of Boulder's Community Newsletter

MESSAGE FROM THE CITY COUNCIL

Putting the community to work, one project at a time

City capital improvement projects are the local version of the federal stimulus package



Renovations were completed at the 1400 Walnut St. parking garage



The Transportation Division recently completed the North Broadway Bike Lanes Improvements Project creating a bike lane link between north and south Boulder.

The City of Boulder has its own version of the federal stimulus package – the capital improvements program (CIP). Not only does the CIP program have annual projects that provide jobs to the local economy, the program maintains, replaces or upgrades facilities that directly benefit the Boulder community.

In general, CIP projects are prioritized to provide essential community services. For potential new projects, the city, whenever possible, partners with outside funding sources such as the state and federal government, and organizations like the University of Colorado.

As projects are completed the community sees the real benefits such as reduced potholes and hazards, less day-to-day maintenance costs, improved connections for all transportation modes, improved safety, well maintained parks and open space trails, and a general increase in city service levels across the board. In short, the CIP helps make the City of Boulder such an amazing place to live, work and recreate.

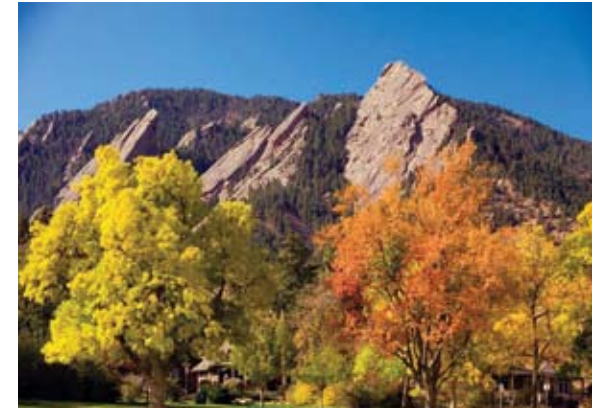
As 2009 comes to an end, we'd like to highlight some of the CIP projects the city has started or completed this year.

Downtown/University Hill Management Division/ Parking Services: Structural renovations and repairs began this year for five downtown parking garages: 1000 Walnut (St. Julien Hotel); 11th and Spruce; 1100 Walnut (Randolph Center); 14th and Walnut (RTD); and 15th and Pearl. Work completed includes repairs to prevent water damage, LED energy efficient lighting installed, weather protection coatings, support beams reinforced, and much more. Future additional work will include elevator overhauls, painting, and new signage.

City buildings: From upgrading and maintaining three fire stations, improving the elevators and making ADA improvements to the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art, to maintaining various city facilities to enhance service delivery – Facilities and Asset Management (FAM) had a busy 2009.

Open Space trails: The City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) Department completed construction on new trails and improved many popular trails and trailheads. Much of the work has occurred on OSMP lands south of Boulder (Prairie Vista Trail; Flatirons Vista Trails and Trailhead; Goshawk Ridge Trail; Doudy Draw Trail and Trailhead; Spring Brook Loop Trail; Centennial

Continued on Page 3



Ground broken for new Fire Training Center



Firefighting, government and construction officials put shovels to dirt in June to celebrate the start of construction of the new Boulder Regional Fire Training Center.

Winter is around the corner

The city's snow season officially starts Sept. 14. Be ready; visit www.bouldercolorado.gov and click on "Winter Tips."



inside this issue

3

2010 Budget Update
City Manager's Message

4

Bike Share Program

6

Climate Action Plan Strategy

8

West Boulder Senior Center
30th Anniversary

The City of Boulder / City Government



City Council Meetings

City Council meetings are open to the public and are generally held on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 1777 Broadway, in Council Chambers (second floor). Meetings are aired live on Channel 8 and re-broadcast Wednesdays at 6 p.m. and Fridays at 11 a.m. Tapes are also available for checkout at the Main Boulder Public Library, 1001 Arapahoe Ave. In addition, meetings are available online at www.boulder-colorado.gov/channel_8. Study sessions are open to the public and are generally held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. For more information, please call 303-441-3002.

Inside Boulder Newsletter

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Information in Spanish The city has created a new phone line for information in Spanish: 303-441-1905. People can call this number to request Spanish interpretation at city meetings or events. Please provide 48 hours notice for interpretation services. **Información en Español** La ciudad ha creado una nueva línea telefónica para información en Español: 303.441.1905. Las personas pueden llamar a este número para solicitar interpretación en Español para las juntas o eventos de la ciudad. 48 horas de aviso es requerido para el servicio de interpretación.

Boards and Commissions

The city's 20 boards and commissions study information and make recommendations to City Council on issues within the board's area of expertise. Recruitment for annual board appointments occurs in January. For more information: www.bouldercolorado.gov, click on "Boards and Commissions."

- Arts Commission
- Beverages Licensing Authority
- Board of Zoning Adjustment
- Boulder Urban Renewal Authority
- Chautauqua Association
- Downtown Design Advisory Board
- Downtown Management Commission
- Environmental Advisory Board
- Housing Authority
- Human Relations Commission
- Landmarks Board
- Library Commission
- Open Space Board of Trustees
- Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
- Planning Board
- Transportation Advisory Board
- University Hill Commercial Area Management Commission
- Water Resources Advisory Board
- Youth Opportunities Advisory Board

Important Numbers:

General Info: 303-441-3388
Emergency: 911
Police Dispatch (Non-Emergency): 303-441-3333
Office of Human Rights: 303-441-3141
Community Mediation Program: 303-441-4364
Animal Control: 303-442-4030



Contact Directory

City Attorney's Office

City Attorney: Jerry Gordon
 303-441-3020

City Manager's Office

City Manager:
 Jane S. Brautigam
 303-441-3090

Channel 8

Station Manager:
 Don Chapman
 303-441-4395

Communication

Manager: Patrick von Keyserling
 303-441-4959

Downtown and University Hill Management Division & Parking Services

Director: Molly Winter
 303-413-7300

Business Assistance/Economic Vitality

Business Liaison: Liz Hanson
 303-441-3287

Emergency Management (City and County)

Director: Mike Chard
 303-441-3390

Environmental Affairs

Manager: Jonathan Koehn
 303-441-4900

Finance

Director: Bob Eichen
 303-441-3040

Fire

Fire Chief: Larry Donner
 303-441-3350

Housing and Human Services

Interim Director: Karen Rahn
 303-441-3157

Human Resources

Director: Eileen Gomez
 303-441-3070

Information Technology

Director: Don Ingle
 303-441-3080

Library & The Arts

Director: Tony Tallent
 303-441-3100

Municipal Court

Municipal Judge: Linda Cooke
 303-441-1843

Open Space & Mountain Parks

Director: Michael Patton
 303-441-3440

Parks and Recreation

Director: Kirk Kincannon
 303-413-7200

Community Planning

Executive Director:
 David Dnskell
 303-441-1880

Police

Police Chief: Mark Beckner
 303-441-3310

Public Works

Executive Director: Maureen Rait
 303-441-3200

Senior Services

Division Manager: John Riggie
 303-441-4150

Transportation

Director: Tracy Winfree
 303-441-3162

Utilities

Director: Ned Williams
 303-441-3209

For complete listings of city departments, projects and programs, go to www.bouldercolorado.gov and click on "City A-Z."

Boulder City Council

CONTACTING CITY COUNCIL Mail letters to: Office of the City Council, P.O. Box 791, Boulder, CO 80306-0791

Fax letters to: 303-441-4478 • Council office phone: 303-441-3002 • E-mail all council members at once: council@bouldercolorado.gov



Matt Appelbaum
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 Term expires:
 November 2009



Crystal Gray
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 Term expires:
 November 2011



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 Term expires:
 November 2009



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 November 2009



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 November 2009



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 November 2011



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 Term expires:
 November 2011



Ken Wilson
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 Term expires:
 November 2011

CITY MANAGER’S MESSAGE

2010 Recommended Budget cuts \$13 million, focuses on efficiencies

By City Manager Jane S. Brautigam

On Aug. 13, the city presented a proposed budget to Council that reduces total spending by \$13 million, of which \$5 million is from operating budgets, from the previous year’s budget. Cost savings will be achieved through staff reductions, increased efficiencies and cutting some nonessential services. These are significant impacts to the city budget and therefore impacts some services to Boulder residents.

A primary focus of our budget process is to ensure that the city can maintain core government services while closing the revenue/expenditure gap identified by the Blue Ribbon Commission on Revenue Stabilization (BRC I). This required the city to closely monitor revenues vs. inflationary costs and consider the long-term viability of proposed programs.

The Recommended Budget reflects the current economic downturn and mirrors the findings of BRC I,

which indicate that current revenues are not keeping pace with inflationary costs. Due to the recessionary conditions at the national, state and local levels, the city collected \$2.1 million less sales/use taxes than projected for 2008. This downturn extended to 2009, and it is anticipated that the 2010 sales/use tax collections will be lower than originally projected by as much as 8 percent, or \$7.2 million. As a result, the city made difficult decisions to reduce staffing and limit nonessential services to ensure a balanced budget in 2010.

The recommendation includes nearly \$5 million in operating reductions to address the revenue shortfall. With improved efficiencies and restructuring, the proposed budget will eliminate 26 full-time equivalent positions through downsizing, attrition, and maintaining vacancies. While strategic reductions in staff and operations are necessary, this budget supports Council goals such as public safety, housing/human services,

environmental initiatives, and cultural resources.

This economic reality combined with the continued expectation to provide high quality, customer-focused services present a challenge in how we prioritize essential and discretionary services. Based on Council direction, the city continues to focus on community sustainability principles, which includes environmental, social and economic components. These principles provided an overarching framework for this budget and were echoed by residents during the public workshops seeking input on short-term and long-range budget stabilization strategies, and community values.

The proposed budget is available for review at www.bouldercolorado.gov. Council will hold public meetings on Sept. 8 and Oct. 6, and is expected to vote on the final budget Oct. 20.

Community projects (continued from page 1)

Trailhead; Bear Canyon Trail reroute; and E. M. Greenman Trail reroute). While visiting these areas, expect to see beautiful vistas of the mountain backdrop, native grasslands, and ponderosa pine woodlands.

Parks and Recreation: The Parks and Recreation Department’s most significant CIP project for 2009 is the anticipated completion of the 3-acre park at Dakota Ridge. Construction on the park began in 2008; plans are underway for a grand opening ceremony this fall. Additional CIP projects for 2009 include planning for major phased developments at East Boulder Community and Valmont City parks as well as park and sports field irrigation system upgrades and facility improvement projects at Wonderland Lake, Harlow Platts, Tantra, Bear Creek, Chautauqua, East Mapleton, and Pleasant View.

Transportation improvements: The Transportation Division continues to improve ever-aging infrastructure and enhance resident travel choices and system performance with leveraged funding and dynamic multi-jurisdictional partnerships. A perfect example is the Broadway (Pine to Iris) Reconstruction Project currently under construction. Slated to be complete in 2010, city, state and federal transportation dollars will ensure a major city street is in good maintenance condition for the next 30 years.

Utilities/Water: The Utilities Division completed various projects that provide Boulder residents with an efficient and environmentally conscious utility infrastructure including various water line replacements, sanitary sewer rehabilitations, water and wastewater treatment facility upgrades and stormwater and flood management projects. A one megawatt photovoltaic electric generating facility is also being installed at the 75th Street Wastewater Treatment Facility. The project will provide 15 to 20 percent of the facility’s power needs and reduce the city’s overall electricity costs. These projects ensure that Boulder maintains industry best practices and continues to deliver quality services to the Boulder community.

What’s on the horizon for 2010? Put simply, a lot. The CIP includes anticipated projects in the next six years, and is updated annually based on project need, prioritization based on departmental master plans, funding opportunities and City Council goals. All projects proposed for next year will be approved as part of the 2010 budget. Although no final decisions have been made by City Council, staff is recommending 68 projects in 14 different funds totaling \$32 million with more than \$9 million in outside non-city funding. Two-thirds of the projects proposed in the CIP are for repairs, upgrades, or enhancements to facilities and services considered essential to the community. Some projects include:

- Assessments and restoration of historic structures on Flagstaff summit
- Open Space trail work in the West Trail Study Area
- Downtown Parking garage continued improvements
- Renovation of the irrigation system at Stazio Fields
- Broadway (Euclid to 18th)Transportation Improvements Project
- Barker Gravity Pipeline
- Fourmile Canyon and Wonderland Creek flood management projects
- Ultraviolet Disinfection at the Wastewater Treatment Facility
- Various waterline replacements
- Upgrade of the Library Auditorium lighting and sound system



Open Space and Mountain Parks staff uses a zip line and pulley to move material across steep terrain on the E.M. Greenman reroute project

GO BOULDER

City of Boulder to implement Bike Share Program



Washington D.C. Bike Share

Bike Share, a popular concept in Europe, is coming to the United States. Cities across the country are exploring high-tech systems offering bicycles for public use. Boulder has begun planning for a program, with hopes to have it rolling in 2010. Staff envisions a first phase of 200 to 250 bikes at 10 stations. Riders will be able to check out a bike at stations located in downtown Boulder, near the Twenty Ninth Street shopping district, CU and the University Hill areas, and return it to any other station. The city has applied for \$250,000 in federal stimulus dollars to help initiate the program in the city's core area. The bike stations under consideration are modular with a kiosk for automated check-out. The distinctive bikes will be low maintenance, sturdy and fit a wide range of riders. The kiosks will allow walk-up use, and regular users can register online for an annual membership. Rental rates will encourage short-term use to ensure quick turn-over of the bikes. For more information or to participate in the process, contact Marni Ratzel at 303-441-3266 or ratzelm@boulder.colorado.gov. For general bike share information, visit www.bike-sharing.blogspot.com.

Every drop counts

Rebates are available to help you conserve water both indoors and out. Visit www.bouldersaveswater.net for rebate forms and details.

City of Boulder Water Conservation Office
www.bouldersaveswater.net 303.413.7407

GO BOULDER

Neighborhood Eco Pass

Autumn is on its way and so is Neighborhood Eco (NECO) Pass season. This is the time of year when those who live in one of Boulder's 42 NECO Pass neighborhoods, will start receiving flyers, neighborly visits and e-mails asking for contributions to the neighborhood's program.

The cost to contribute to this program varies by neighborhood, but is a fraction of the \$1,900 it would cost to buy this transit pass outside of the program. Through grassroots volunteer efforts, this program has added thousands of households since it began in 1994. In 2001, there were 3,056 households who were eligible to participate. This year there are 7,183 households.

Contributing to your neighborhood's program gives you access to all of RTD's services including the "N" to Eldora Mountain Resort, skyRide to DIA, Light-Rail, call -N- Ride services and of course all of RTD local, express and regional services. Once you have the pass you will find all kinds of ways to use it. If you don't think you will ever use the pass, contributing to your program still ensures that your neighbors have access and are more likely to use transit services. This means less congestion on our streets and reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

RTD has placed a moratorium on adding new neigh-



borhoods to this program until they are able to analyze it in more detail. This means that no new neighborhoods can be added to this program for 2010 and that those neighborhoods that participated in 2009 need to obtain their financial contributions to keep the existing NECO pass programs in place.

If you have any questions about the NECO Pass program, visit www.GOBoulder.net or call Andrea Robbins at 303-441-3266.

GO BOULDER

CU football fans: Transit & parking for game days



Transportation options to and from Boulder's Saturday home games include:

HOP Shuttle: Park free for Saturday games at any downtown City of Boulder parking structure or at the Twenty Ninth Street shopping center and take the HOP shuttle to the stadium. Cost: \$2 one-way and riders must have exact change or other form of RTD payment including an Eco Pass.

RTD Boulder Buff Shuttle: Park at RTD's Table Mesa park-n-Ride and take the RTD Boulder Buff Shuttle to Folsom Stadium. Cost: \$4 round-trip fare. Riders must have exact change. Parking fees may apply.

RTD BuffRide: Park at RTD's Wadsworth/Hampton, Cold Spring, Nine Mile, Southmoor, Wagon Road, Westminster Center, Broomfield, U.S. 36/McCaslin, I-25/Broadway, Longmont or Roosevelt park-n-Rides and take the RTD BuffRide to the game. Cost: \$7 - \$9 round-trip fare (fare depends on park-n-Ride location). Riders must have exact change. Passes, tickets, transfers and tokens are NOT accepted for this special service. Parking fees may apply.

For transit schedules and more information, visit www.RTD-Denver.com/BuffRide or call 303-299-6000. For turn-by-turn City of Boulder bike routing directions, visit www.GOBikeBoulder.net.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

Be mountain lion and bear aware in Boulder

In Boulder, we have the unique privilege of living in close proximity to wildlife, including mountain lions and bears. With this privilege comes a responsibility to make our neighborhoods less inviting to these animals.

Most conflicts between people and **bears** can be traced to food. Bears that have been fed intentionally or unintentionally can lose their natural fear of people and may destroy property or threaten human safety.

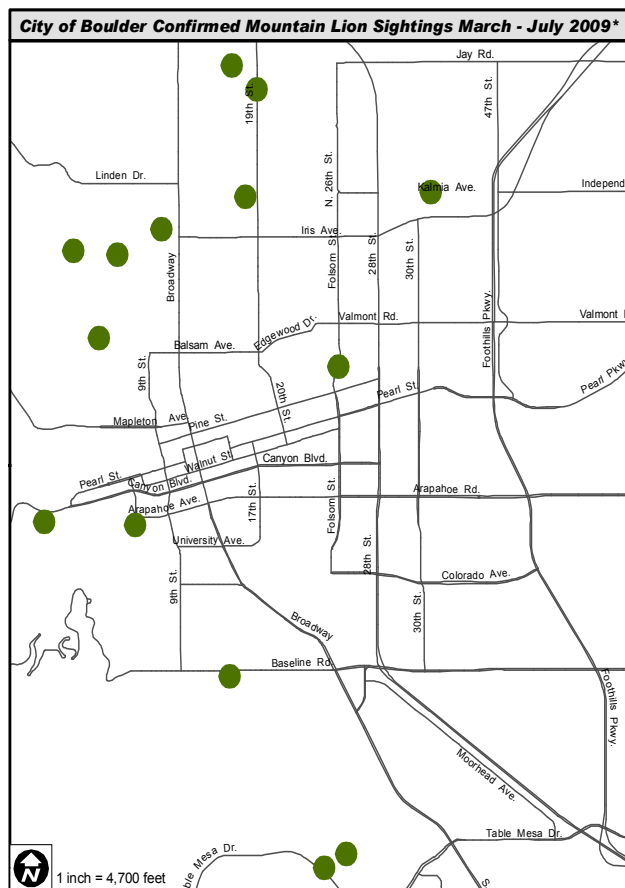
The following are ways to make your home less attractive to bears:

- Put trash and curbside composting out the morning of collection.
- Do not put out bird feeders when bears are active from mid- March to November.
- Clean your grill. Bears can smell meat from great distances.
- Keep pet food indoors and secure.
- Pick fruit before it ripens and clean up fallen fruit.
- Don't leave food, trash, air fresheners or anything with an odor in your car.

Mountain lions are generally elusive animals. Attacks on people are rare, but lions entering the city from adjacent natural areas are not rare. (See adjacent sightings map.) Unlike bears, mountain lions prey on live animals for most of their food. In this area, lions primarily eat deer, but other animals including cats and dogs are also prey. If pets are left outside unattended, leave them in a kennel or enclosure with a cover.



Colorado Division of Wildlife



*Confirmed sightings are sightings reported by wildlife officials

What should I do if I encounter a bear or mountain lion?

- Do not approach.
- Stop or back away slowly; never run.
- Give them a way to escape.
- Stay calm; talk calmly yet firmly.
- Try to make yourself appear larger, by raising your arms.
- Bring children close to you.
- Fight back if you are attacked.

Whom should I call if I see bear or mountain lion activity in Boulder?

For a life-threatening emergency, call 911.
For wildlife behavior that is a concern, such as a lion or bear currently in your backyard, call the Boulder Police non-emergency number: 303-441-3333.
For questions and to report sightings that do not require a response, call the Urban Wildlife Coordinator: 303-441-3004.

For mountain lion reports and activity in Boulder, visit: www.boulderwildlifeplan.net For more information on living with bears and lions, visit the Colorado Division of Wildlife: www.wildlife.state.co.us/wildlifespecies/livingwithwildlife.

PARKS AND RECREATION Developing a reservoir master plan

The City of Boulder has begun development of a master plan for the Boulder Reservoir. The purpose of the plan is to establish management goals and objectives for the land, facilities and activities at and around the Boulder Reservoir (including Tom Watson Park and Coot Lake) managed by the Department of Parks and Recreation. This plan will guide future programs, events, investment strategies and facility developments in this area.

Residents are encouraged to participate in the plan development through a series of public input sessions over the next year. An online comment form is also available for input. The first public meeting was held in July. The purpose of this initial meeting was to introduce the project to the community, get feedback on a draft vision and set of goals, and identify the issues needing to be addressed in the plan.

The Boulder Reservoir Master Plan will be developed through an interdepartmental team of city staff representing planning, recreation, water quality and natural resource perspectives.

The plan will be developed in the following phases:
Phase I: Defining the Vision, Goals and Key Challenges
Phase II: Drafting Policy and Plan Alternatives
Phase III: Drafting and Finalizing a Master Plan

We are currently in Phase I of the project with plan completion anticipated by the summer of 2010. The next public input session is planned for early October. Details on the time, agenda and location for this and future plan meetings are available at www.BoulderRez.org.

The Boulder Reservoir Master Plan was last updated in 1983. Over the past 25 years, the facility has seen an increase in recreational use (as the area's population has grown). An updated master plan will help determine future operations, management, investment priorities and capital needs for the site.

For additional information, updates and ways to get involved, please visit www.BoulderRez.org, where you will find the latest information and be able to sign-up for e-mail updates and the city's Twitter page (www.twitter.com/boulderparksrec). You may also call Beverly Johnson, project manager, at 303-441-3272.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

Investing in energy efficiency for city facilities

In its continued commitment to environmental sustainability, the City of Boulder is embarking on an effort to significantly reduce energy consumption in city-owned facilities. With over three million square feet of city facilities, a multi-departmental Energy Strategy Team (EST) has been formed to improve citywide energy efficiencies and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The EST is currently working with Governor Ritter's Energy Office (GEO) to secure federal economic stimulus funding for energy-efficiency improvements for several city facilities.

The city will receive an initial \$400,000 from the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program for energy performance contracts. These contracts identify energy saving opportunities and provide low- or no-interest funding for the recommended improvements. Once implemented, all improvement costs are repaid by the actual cost-savings of the reduced energy consumption. This is an opportunity for the city to improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions while avoiding the up-front capital costs ordinarily needed to renovate facilities and upgrade equipment.

An EST subcommittee recently selected a contractor to oversee an energy audit and evaluate potential applications for renewable energy (such as solar thermal, passive solar, solar electric, and woody bio-mass) as well as more traditional energy efficiency upgrades such as high efficiency lighting, energy management systems, insulation and upgrades to mechanical and electrical systems. This audit will also quantify the utility cost savings for each suggested improvement.

The city's goal is to save 20 to 25 percent on overall energy consumption and costs. Energy savings measures for each facility will then be prioritized for implementation based on its sustainable return on investment (SROI). SROI, unlike simple payback financial models, also takes into account environmental and social benefits such as greenhouse gas reductions, building comfort, and jobs created. Factors which are important to our sustainability goals and to economic stimulus funding decisions.

PLANNING

Know your power: Boulder's new Climate Action Plan strategy

The Boulder City Council recently approved an increase to the Climate Action Plan (CAP) tax to the maximum rates approved by voters in 2006. They also approved the outline of a new CAP strategy to achieve Boulder's ambitious greenhouse gas reduction goals—a strategy developed in close collaboration with teams of local energy experts, business representatives, social marketing professionals and climate scientists.

The CAP tax will generate about \$1.6 million per year and will fund programs designed to reduce the carbon emissions that result from our community's energy use. Boulder's goal is to reduce emissions by 25 percent. To do this, everyone that lives, works, shops or plays in Boulder can take small actions that will add up. The new CAP strategy will help us "know our power"—where our emissions come from and how we can personally contribute to the goal.

Many Boulder residents understand the importance of energy conservation and believe in the promise of renewable energy, but most of us lack the time needed to wade through often-conflicting information on the best and most cost-effective actions that will save energy and money. The new CAP strategy will provide information and resources to help make

change easier. So whether you want to do something small—like keep your vehicle tires inflated—or something large—like replace your home furnace—you will know how to get it done, often in one easy step.

As an example, the city will offer teams of trained auditors and qualified contractors to go neighborhood-by-neighborhood to give specific information about home energy use and potential cost savings, and to offer discounted installation of insulation and other energy efficiency improvements. These trained teams will also help folks understand how to use Xcel Energy's Smart Grid tools once they are introduced.

The city is also working with the county and a team of finance experts to develop a suite of financing packages that can help pay for efficiency upgrades. A similar approach will be tailored for businesses to help finance energy efficiency upgrades and improve building comfort.

New programs are being designed and piloted in the fall of 2009 and will launch this winter-watch for them! Visit www.beClimateSmart.com for information on current programs, available rebates and financing, and tips for reducing your carbon footprint.



OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS Free guided nature hikes

The City of Boulder's Open Space and Mountain Parks Department (OSMP) offers year-round "Natural Selections" nature programs on topics including ecology, geology, wildlife, local history, night hikes, children's programs, plus many more. All programs are free and open to the public. Please bring water, snacks and wear suitable footwear. Please do not bring dogs. Visit our Web site at www.NatureHikes.org for a list of programs and directions to meeting points, or join our electronic list serve for weekly reminders about upcoming hikes. Call OSMP at 303-441-3440 for more information.

Compatible Development

in single-family neighborhoods

For the latest news and project updates...

Visit www.bouldercolorado.gov and look for "Compatible Development," under "Issues and Projects."





DOWNTOWN AND UNIVERSITY HILL MANAGEMENT Greening the Hill Partnership means business...zero waste business!

The Greening the Hill Partnership currently boasts nine certified environmentally friendly businesses: Burnt Toast Restaurant, Cheba Hut, Toasted Subs, Off

Campus Cuts, The Onion, Shipping on the Hill, The Sink, Snarf's Sub Shop, Abo's Pizza, and The Sink Dry Goods store.

Each of the businesses, all located on the University Hill, has voluntarily taken measures to move toward a zero waste model and, through the partnership, is recognized on 15 banners now displayed atop area street-light poles. These colorful banners are an artistic reminder of the positive environmental and financial return on investment that comes from operating within a zero waste model. Sponsors for the design and production of these banners include the City of Boulder's ClimateSmart program, Boulder County Partners for A Clean Environment (PACE), and Boulder Parking Services.

"A zero waste model is key in any business," stated Matt Clark-Johnson, co-owner of Cheba Hut, founding member of Greening the Hill Partnership. "We look at this as a way of uniting people on the Hill and gather-

ing everybody for the same cause."

To qualify for the partnership, businesses must meet 21 requirements on the group's checklist, which is divided into three main sections: waste reduction, energy and resource conservation, and pollution prevention. The list also features another 27 elective measures meant to maximize environmental effectiveness. The required measures include the composting of all organic material, replacing incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs, and replacing all existing toilets with models that use 1.6 gallons of water per flush or less.

"The goal is not to focus on any single Hill business, but really focus our efforts to bring together all Hill businesses to create the first zero waste business district," said Brain Carp, general manager of the Fox Theatre. "We want to make the Hill a destination again."

Those currently involved with the Greening the Hill Partnership said they hope their efforts will ultimately establish the University Hill as a zero waste business district, perhaps one of the nation's first. "This has been a project that I personally have been working on since July of 2007," said Bill Shrum, manager of Shipping on the Hill, who helped spearhead efforts with Clark-Johnson. "I'm really proud that there is so much momentum behind it from our initial meeting of only four people one afternoon at Buchanan's."

BOULDER PUBLIC LIBRARY

September is National Library Card Sign-Up month

In September, Boulder Public Library launched a promotional campaign to go along with National Library Card Sign-Up month about the many opportunities available to you for free at your public library! The theme of the campaign is, "Have you been carded yet?" and shows an image of Boulder Police Chief Mark Beckner holding the six new library card designs (see photo). If you don't already have a library card, we hope you will take this opportunity to get one and choose your favorite.

Library staff has been out at many community events lately, including farmer's markets and on the Pearl Street Mall, and not only can they answer your questions about what the library offers, but they can sign you up for a library card on the spot. A list of 30 ways to use your Boulder Public Library card—one for each day of September—is on the library Web site: www.boulderlibrary.org and is also being sent by daily tips on the library's social media accounts. This



Police Chief Mark Beckner asks, 'Have you been carded yet?'

campaign comes at a time when Boulder Public Library has also seen many improvements, including an updated used book shop and increasing circulation. More and more people are realizing the wonderful and varied experiences a library card opens up for them, and we hope you'll be one of them!

UNIVERSITY LIAISON PROGRAM Welcome back to a new school year!



University of Colorado

We want all of the members of our community to have a happy, healthy, and successful year in a fun and safe environment, but we cannot make this happen without your help!

For the past several months, CU-Boulder and the city have been working to address public safety concerns and develop plans for future improvements. Collaborative efforts, like the Safety Initiatives Coalition, which will be chaired by the University Liaison, allow us to increase budget efficiency, improve communication between related entities, and pool resources.

In a year ripe with budget cuts and the tough economy, we want to focus on something with more intrinsic value to our community: strengthening the relationships between all of us and improving our interactions with each other.

We would like to extend this effort to the greater Boulder community and embrace our neighbors with healthy interaction and positive communication instead of conflict and disappointment. We ask you to greet your new neighbors, let them know what kind of behavior you expect from them and that they can expect from you, keep each other informed about situations by which you each may be affected, and work to resolve any conflict with open minds and understanding.

Check out www.welcometoboulder.net for more information on how to be a good neighbor in beautiful Boulder! For more information contact, CU Community Outreach Specialist Susan Barkman at 303-492-7053 or susan.barkman@colorado.edu.

HOUSING AND HUMAN SERVICES

Join the celebration: 30th anniversary of the West Boulder Senior Center

The public is invited to join Boulder Senior Services in celebrating the **30th anniversary of the West Senior Center from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 12, at the West Senior Center, 909 Arapahoe.**

Come enjoy music and entertainment, the chance to win a door prize, and join in on the following activities: **7:30 – 10:30 a.m.** – Silent auction to benefit our wonderful Senior Resources program. Proceeds will support our work with adults over age 60 and their family caregivers.

8 – 10 a.m. - Pancake breakfast. Seating for the breakfast is limited to the first 125 people who register. Encore and SilverSneakers® members/\$3; all others/\$6. To register and order tickets, call 303-441-3148 or 303-441-4150. Tickets will not be sold at the door.

9 a.m. – Short rides of our new bus, the Dream Machine, will run every 15 minutes.

10:30 a.m. - Dedication of Alan Snyder's sculpture in honor of the 30th anniversary.

11 a.m. - Dedication of the ceramic tile mural project created by Maria Neary and the patrons of the West Senior Center.

11:30 a.m. Ribbon cutting ceremony for our new bus, the Dream Machine.

Noon - Prize drawings, cutting of the cake, winners announced from the silent auction, and words from dignitaries and seniors who attended the dedication of the new building on Sept. 9, 1979.

For further information, please call the West Senior Center at 303-441-3148. Senior Services is a division of Housing and Human Services.



Christine and her daughter painted tiles for the transit stop art piece.

HOUSING AND HUMAN SERVICES

A rising tide floats all boats

by Bobbie Watson, The Early Childhood Council of Boulder County

The first three to five years of a child's life are crucial to his or her healthy cognitive, social-emotional, and physical development. What happens during this time can have a significant influence—either positive or negative—on a child's success later in life. During this time the brain grows up to 90 percent of its adult size and children learn the basics about language and numbers, how to get along with others and how to solve problems, all essential ingredients for success in school. It is also a critical time to support children's healthy physical development.

For over 10 years, residents of Boulder County have been working to develop a comprehensive early childhood system of services to serve all Boulder County's young children. Spearheading this effort has been the Early Childhood Council of Boulder County (ECCBC). The City of Boulder's Department of Housing and Human Services is a founding partner in the Council, along with Boulder County, nonprofits and many individuals. The need for an

early childhood system of services was driven by the overall low ranking of Colorado in a national study on the quality of early childhood programs, low public investment in education, and significant high school achievement gaps. Research demonstrates that the critical avenue for success in school, employment, avoidance of poverty, and reliance on public services is school readiness. Investments in high-quality early childhood programs yield substantial short and long-term benefits that far outweigh initial costs.

The Early Childhood Council of Boulder County is coordinating the community development of a system of services plan. A system of services includes quality child care, access to health care and mental health services, early learning and disabilities screening, and parental support programs. For more information on the plan, please go to the Early Childhood Council of Boulder County Web site at www.earlychildhoodbouldercounty.org.



Public safety agencies launch new text alert system

The City of Boulder is pleased to announce the launch of a new emergency notification system, designed to keep our residents, many of whom are on the go, informed during dangerous situations.

The program allows residents to sign up for alerts that will be sent to their cell phones, e-mail addresses and other mobile devices. The alerts will be used only in emergencies, such as a wildfire, flood, major police activity or hazardous material situation.

These alerts will be sent out as text messages, which can be transmitted more quickly than traditional voice alerts. They will be clearly marked as a 911 alert.

To participate, community members need to sign up, indicating the physical address about which they want information and where they wish to receive it. Participants are welcome to register more than one address, including a home, school and workplace. For more information and to register, please go to www.bouldercolorado.gov/alertsignup.